

Extra Reading

Reading about Job Interviews

A Read the text. Decide whether the underlined connectors show contrast, cause, consequence or add information, and write your answers in the spaces below.



A Virtual Job Interview

Imagine going to a job interview and speaking in front of a camera instead of a potential employer. Well, a New York company called Treeba has developed a Virtual Interview programme called VIP.

At the interview, applicants answer a set of questions and then their responses are recorded and distributed through the Internet to a number of companies. Companies that are hiring people get a list of potential job applicants and can decide which ones are suitable candidates to ask to come in for a live interview.

Companies vary in their attitude to VIP. Some say it increases the possibility of successfully matching a potential applicant to their firm's requirements. Furthermore, employers can scan graduating students at colleges and universities all over the country and assess their potential as future employees. Other companies, however, prefer using their own recommended database of job applicants.

For job applicants, VIP is controversial. It enables them to make contact with many companies. Job applicants also gain confidence by practising the interview before facing the live one.

However, in a virtual interview, the time gap between questions is fixed. A quick answer may lead to a long silence before the next question, and as a result, applicants are sometimes tempted to fill the gap by speaking when it isn't necessary. In addition, in a virtual interview, the candidate has no opportunity to adjust responses according to feedback from an interviewer.

If the prospect of a camera interview doesn't appeal to you, don't start worrying about it because it's still very early days for VIP. There is no way of knowing whether or not it will eventually conquer the job market.



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|--|---|
| 1. contrast <u>however</u> | 3. consequence <u>as a result</u> |
| 2. cause <u>because</u> | 4. add information <u>Furthermore</u> |

B Complete the sentences according to the text.

- After recording applicants' answers to questions, VIP then distributes them through the Internet.
- Applicants sometimes speak too much at a virtual interview in order to fill the gaps between questions.

C Answer the questions.

- How does the VIP programme help large companies to plan for the future?
The VIP programme increases the possibility of successfully matching a potential applicant to a firm's requirements.
- Why do some job candidates prefer a real interviewer to a virtual interview?
Because they can adjust their responses according to the feedback from an interviewer.

D Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. answers (line 4) <u>responses</u> | 3. change (line 18) <u>adjust</u> |
| 2. differ (line 8) <u>vary</u> | 4. attract (line 20) <u>appeal</u> |

Extra Listening

Unique Schools

You are going to hear a radio programme about two special schools. Listen and answer the questions.

- Today's radio programme is about
☐ a. being a student today
☒ b. unusual job training programmes
☐ c. job opportunities
- Lily studies
☐ a. circus arts only
☐ b. academic subjects only
☒ c. circus arts and academic subjects
- Lily is not learning
☒ a. how to be a clown
☐ b. acting
☐ c. acrobatics
- To get into circus school, a person must take
☐ a. a physical test
☐ b. an acting test
☒ c. both a and b
- Lily prefers to get a job
☐ a. as a performer in a club
☐ b. travelling with a small group of performers
☒ c. in a big circus
- Ron would like to work in
☒ a. aviation
☐ b. mathematics
☐ c. job training
- Ron decided to go to this high school because
☐ a. it was close to his home
☒ b. he is interested in the curriculum
☐ c. the classes sounded easy
- Ron is learning to be
☐ a. an auto mechanic
☒ b. an airline mechanic
☐ c. a pilot
- In his programme, Ron
☒ a. learns about a plane's electronic systems
☐ b. practises flying a plane
☐ c. puts together the parts of a real plane
- The students at Ron's school will
☐ a. only work at airports
☐ b. only have careers in aviation
☒ c. work in different fields

